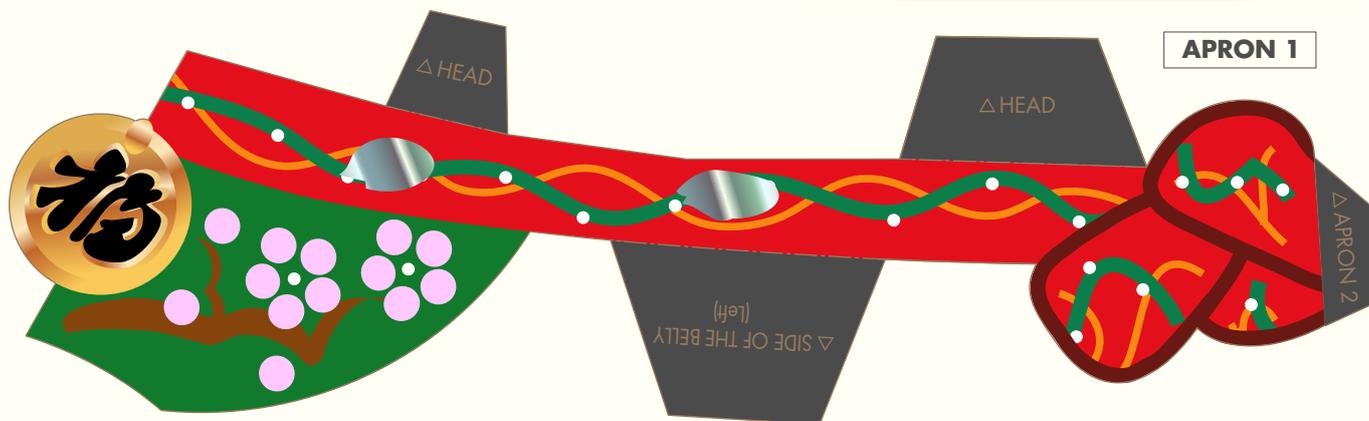
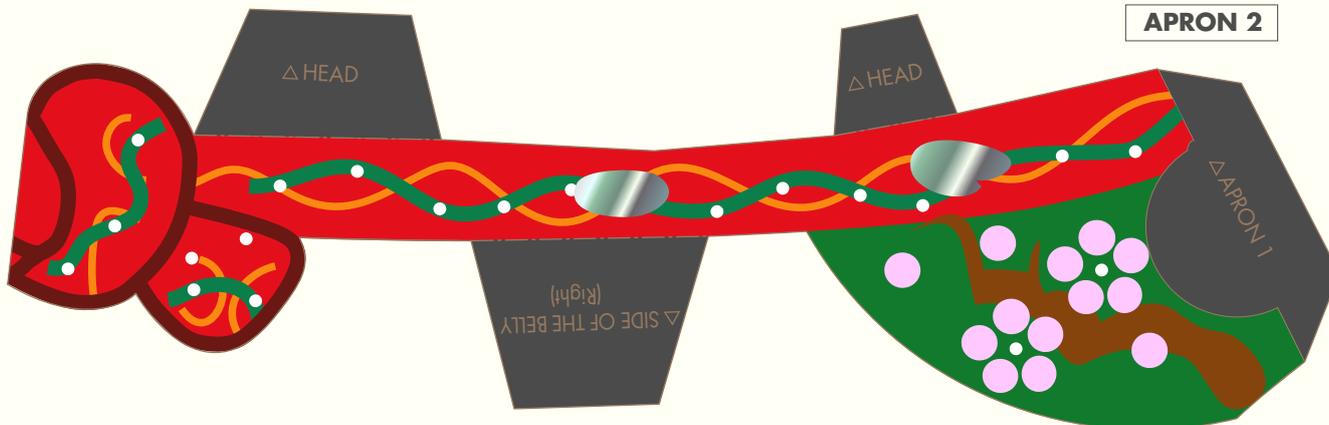
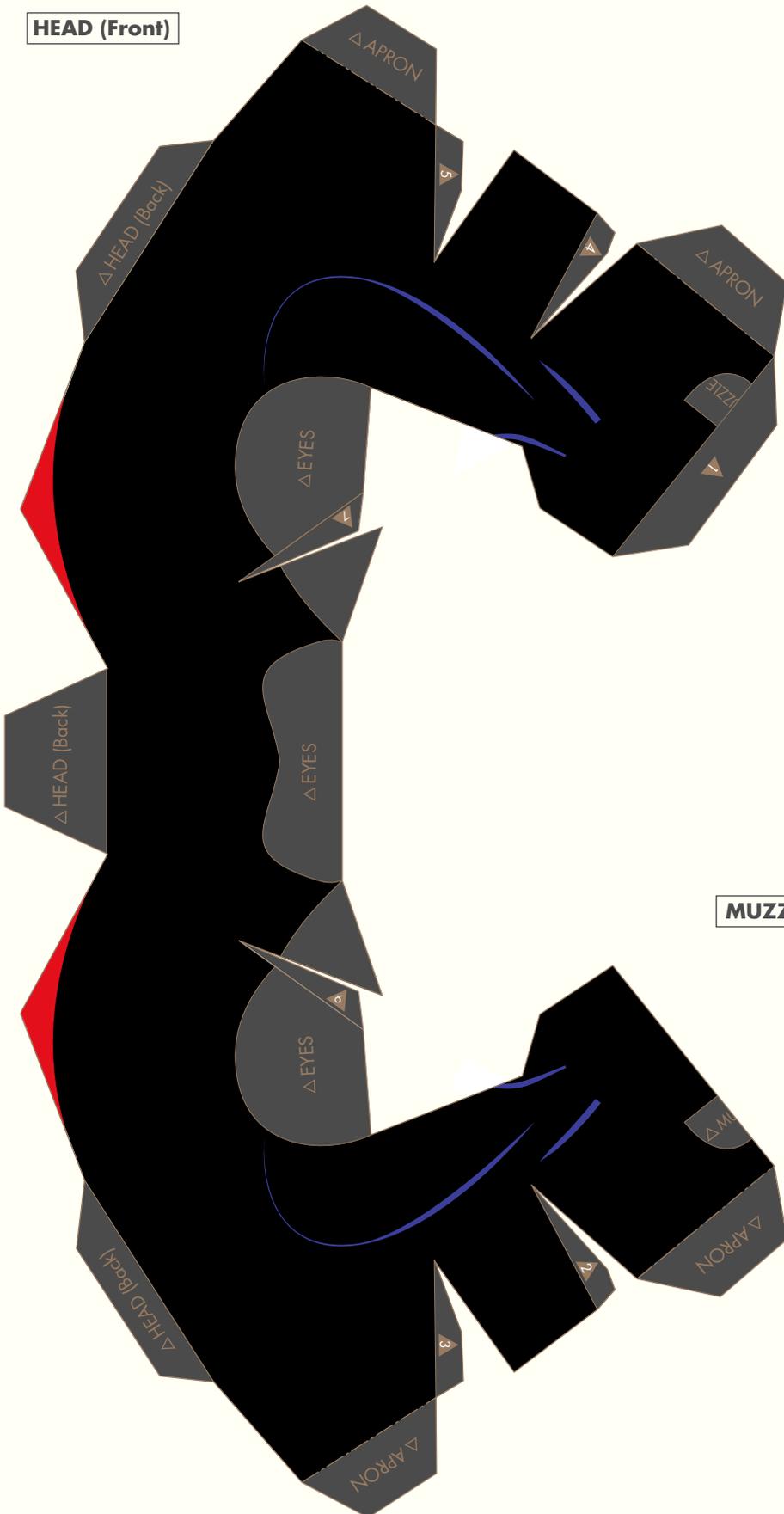
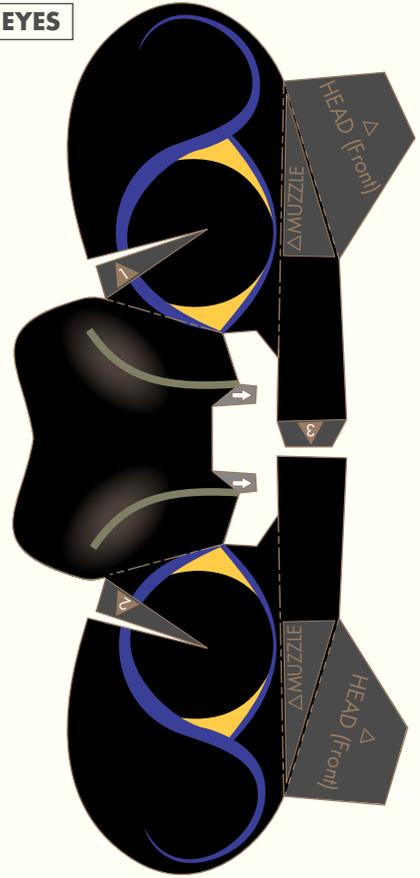
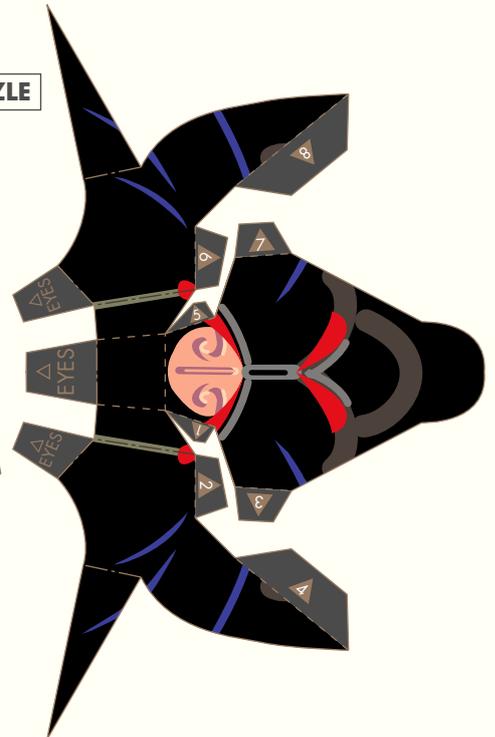
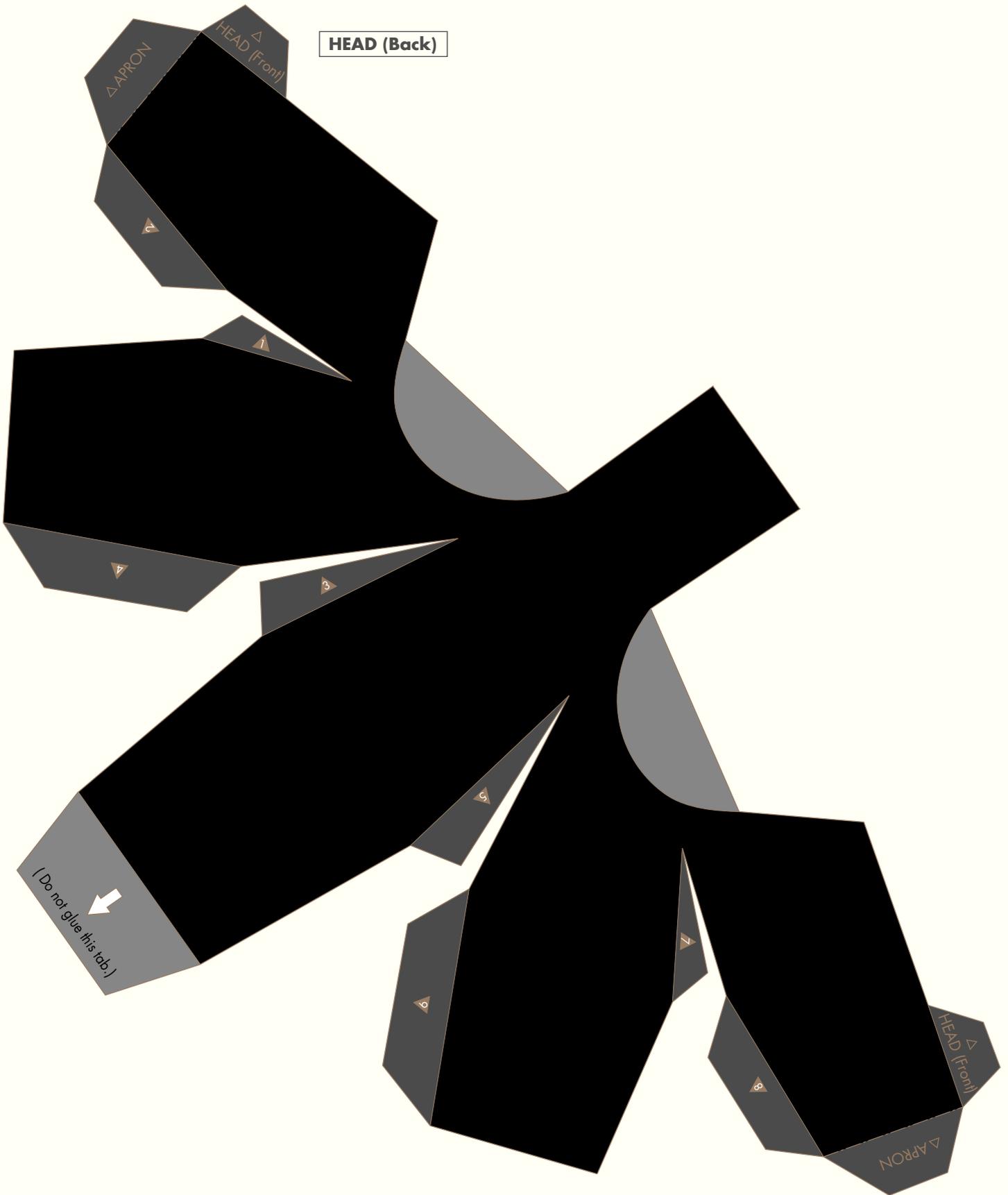
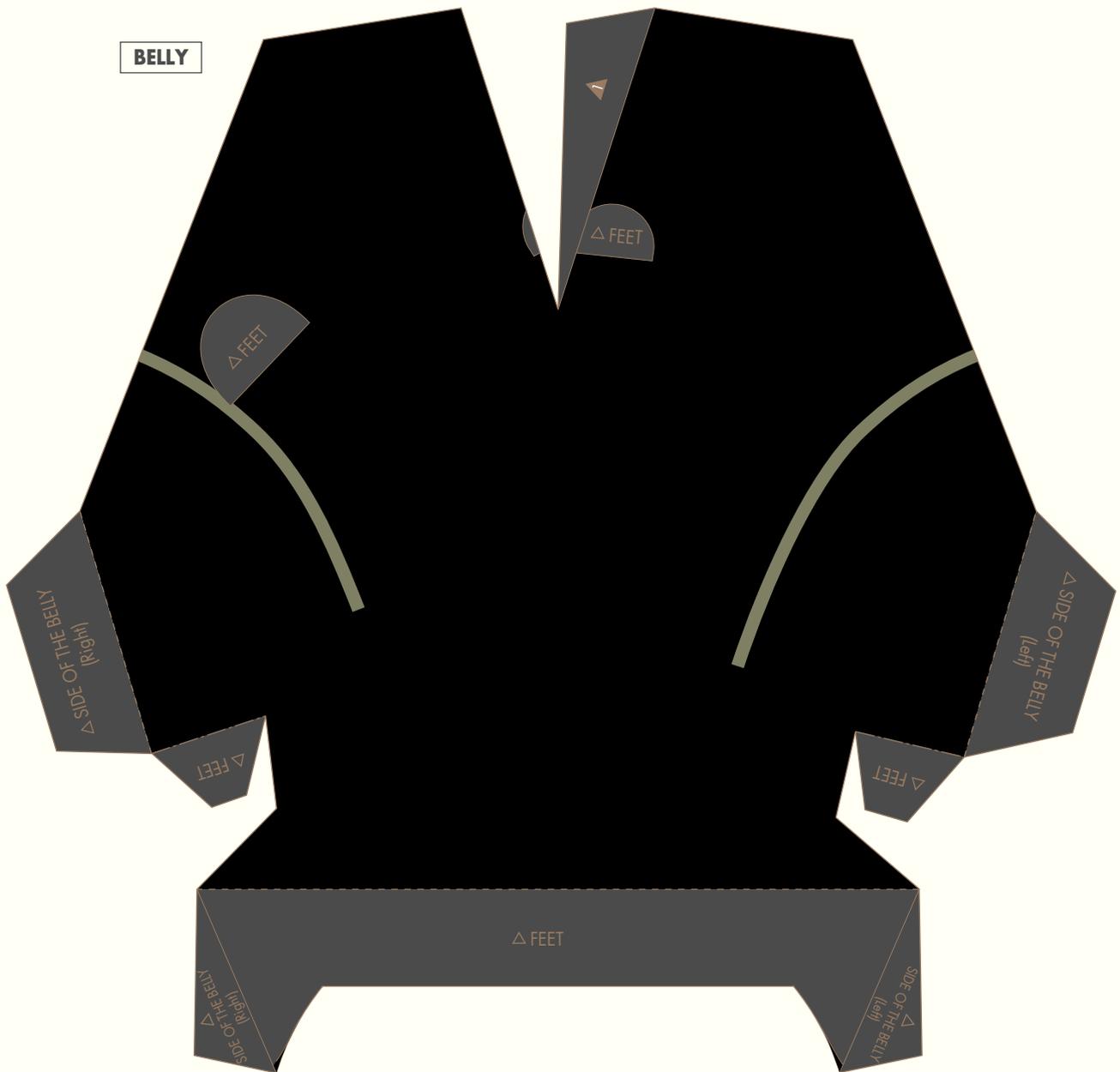
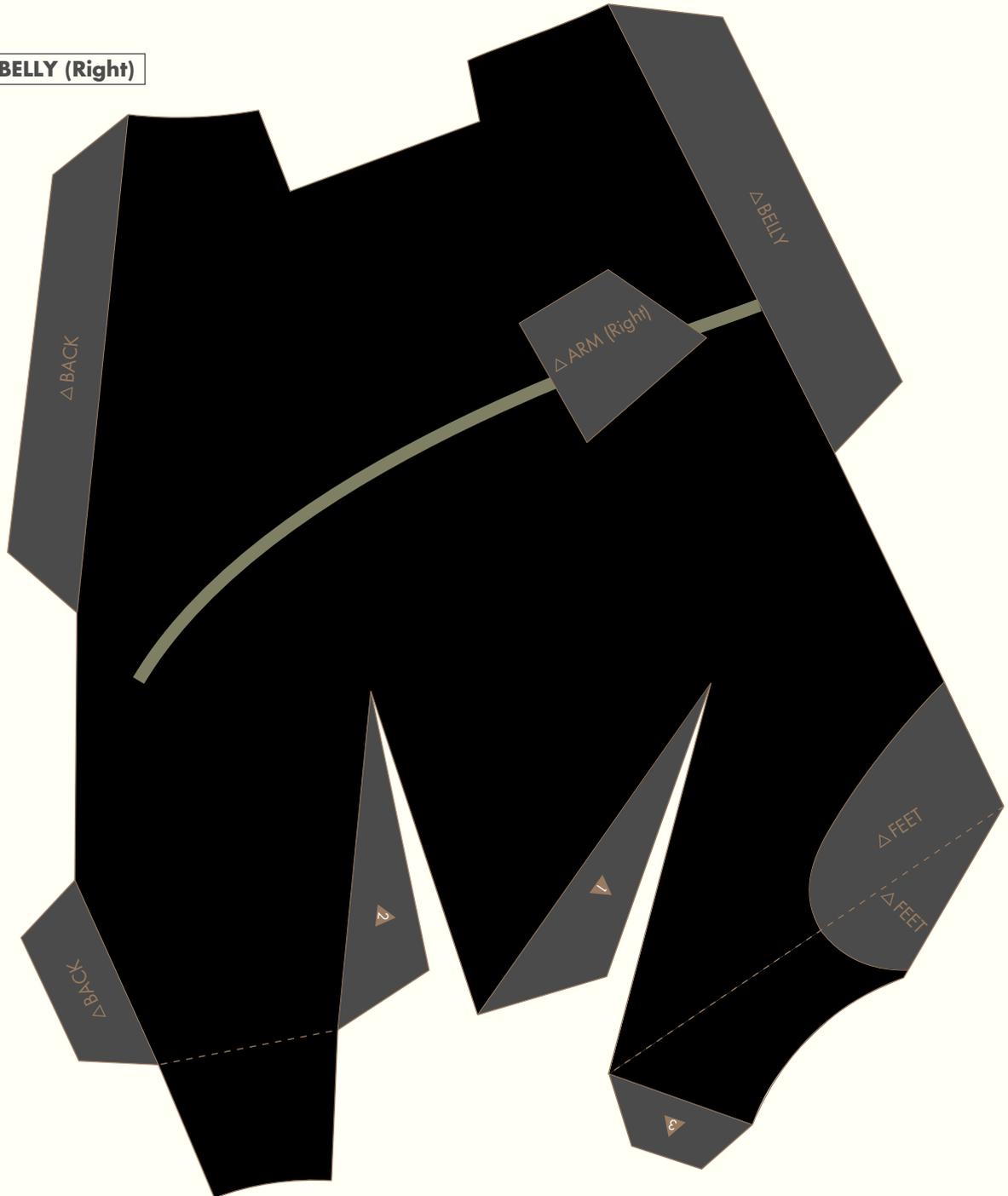
MANEKI NEKO (Lucky cat)

Good luck charm

The Maneki-neko, or "beckoning cat", is a widely recognizable figure, beloved in Japan as a lucky cat that beckons good fortune. Most people in Japan use similar gestures to beckon someone over, by waving their hands up and down with their palms facing down.

There are various theories about the origin of the Maneki-neko and, even today, no one is certain as to which explanation is the correct one. The Maneki-neko is believed to have originated towards the end of the Edo Period (1603-1867) and eventually developed into the decorative ornament it is today. Folklore has it that the raised paw of the Maneki-neko has meaning.

Maneki-neko come in a variety of different colours. Black is said to be the 'colour of darkness', so the black Maneki-neko is believed to ward off evil and misfortune.

Also, the Maneki-neko with its left paw raised is generally believed to be 'beckoning to people', to invite them in, and the black Maneki-neko with its left paw raised is said to 'protect against the trouble that people bring', and is apparently most effective when placed near the front door.

HEAD (Front)
APRON
HEAD (Back)
EYES
EYES
MUZZLE
HEAD (Front)
MUZZLE
MUZZLE
HEAD (Front)
MUZZLE
EYES
EYES
EYES
APRON
HEAD (Back)
EYES
APRON
HEAD (Back)
APRON

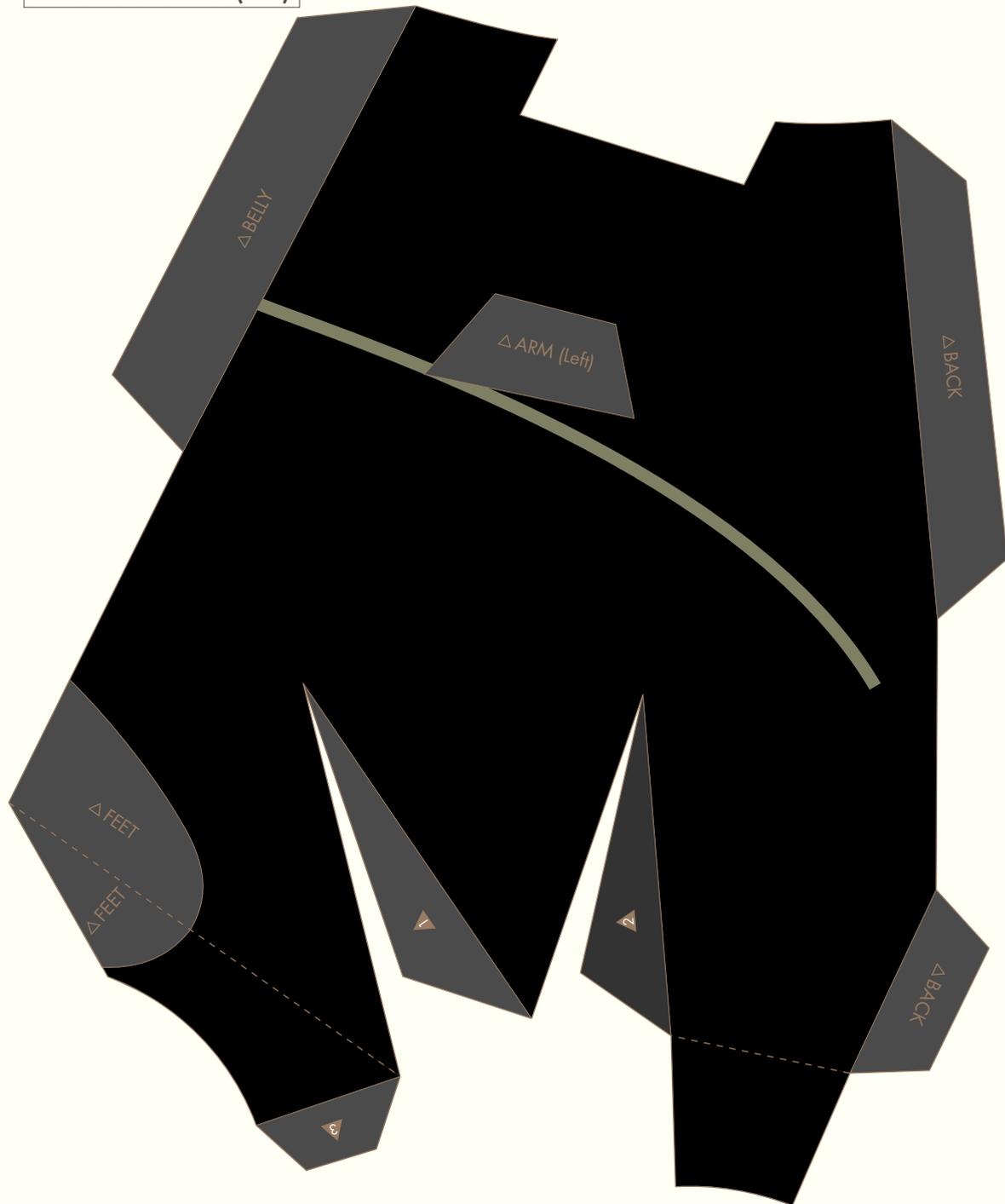
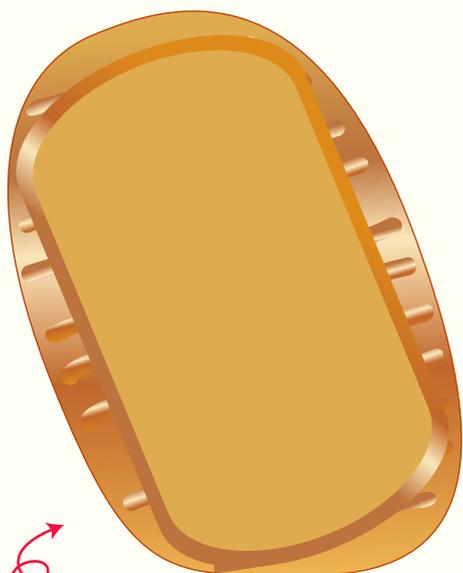
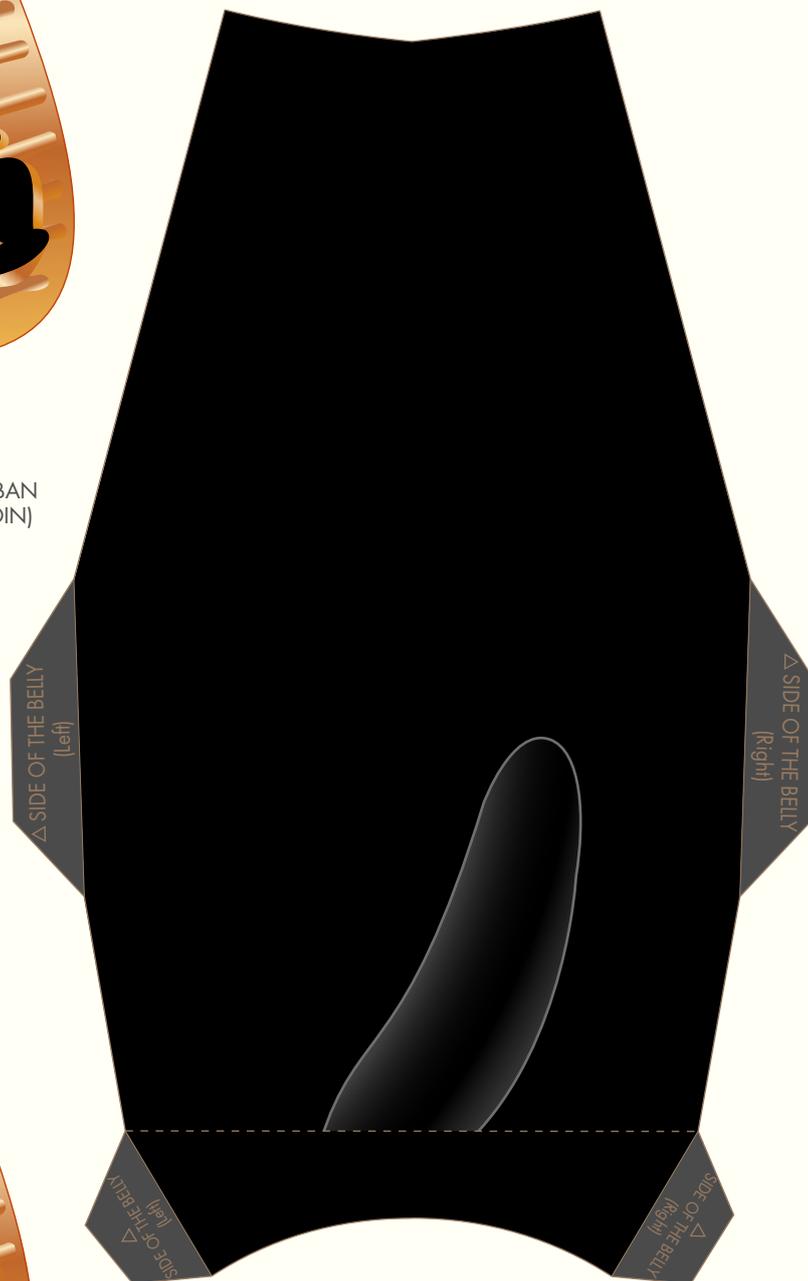
HEAD (Back)
△APRON
HEAD (Front) △
(Do not glue this tab.)

EAR (Right)
EAR (Left)
△ HEAD (Front)
△ HEAD (Back)
ARM (Right)
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Right)
Here, apply glue on the reverse side
1
2
3
4
5
6

ARM (Left) 1
△ ARM (Left) 2
△ ARM (Left) 2
△ ARM (Left) 2
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Left)
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Left)
Here, apply glue on the reverse side
ARM (Left) 2
△ ARM (Left) 1
△ ARM (Left) 1

BELLY
△ FEET
△ FEET
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Right)
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Left)
△ FEET
△ FEET
△ FEET
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Right)
△ SIDE OF THE BELLY (Left)

SIDE OF THE BELLY (Right)
△BACK
△BELLY
△ARM (Right)
△FEET
△FEET
△BACK
1
2
3

SIDE OF THE BELLY (Left)

If you want to make a wish,
write it here and glue it onto the cat!

KAIUN KOBAN & SENMANRYO KOBAN
(GOOD LUCK COIN & TEN MILLION COINS)